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60,469-254
OT-5282IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kulak, Richard
Serial Number: 10/574,653
Filed: 04/04/2006
Group Art Unit: 3654
Examiner: Kruer, Stefan
Title: ELEVATOR ROLLER GUIDE WITH VARIABLE
STIFFNESS DAMPER

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is responsive to the Non-Final Office Action mailed on March 7, 2008. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no *prima facie* case of obviousness. The Examiner's proposed combination of the *Fujita* and *Hollowell, et al.* references cannot be made. Therefore, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103 of claims 1, 3, 5-9, 10, 12-14 and 16-22 based upon that proposed combination should be withdrawn.

The Examiner suggests that the *Hollowell, et al.* reference teaches a controller that automatically increases the stiffness of a damper when an associated elevator car is at a landing. That is not what the *Hollowell, et al.* reference teaches. The position signal of column 3, line 10 in the *Hollowell, et al.* reference is used to "lock the cab to a landing" as stated in lines 11 and 12 of column 3. The way that occurs is not by increasing the stiffness of a passive damper. Instead,